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Date: June 15, 2004

Name: Kathy Willan

Signature: *Kathy A. Willan*

Docket No. VTN 581

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Parnell, et al.

Filed: February 28, 2002

Group Art Unit: 3726

Serial No: 10/084,895

Examiner: John C. Hong

For: RIGID VACUUM TIP

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT  
IN RESPONSE TO THE APRIL 23, 2004 OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 23, 2004, favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the following amendment and remarks is respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.